

Case 2757

***Rhinapion* Beguin-Billecocq, 1905 (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed conservation**

M.A. Alonso-Zarazaga

Sección de Entomología, Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, J. Gutiérrez Abascal 2, 28006 Madrid, Spain

M. Wanat

Muzeum Przyrodnicze, Uniwersytet Wrocławski, Sienkiewicza 21, 50-335 Wrocław, Poland

Abstract. The purpose of this application is to conserve the name *Rhinapion* Beguin-Billecocq, 1905 for a subgenus of weevils by the suppression of the senior homonym *Rhinapion* Motschulsky. *Rhinapion* Beguin-Billecocq includes species which are seed predators of leguminous plants (wild or cultivated) in sub-Saharan Africa and Madagascar.

1. In 1866 Motschulsky used the generic name *Rhynapion* (p. 430) in a list of three coleopteran species from Ceylon (Sri Lanka), none of which were described, and the name is therefore a nomen nudum.

2. Later, Motschulsky (1868, p. 86) used the generic name *Rhinapion* (apparently an emendation for the etymologically incorrect *Rhynapion*) in a list of the taxa which he had described, with the former three undescribed species plus two species described by himself in 1860, i.e. *Apion nigricorne* Motschulsky, 1860 and *A. angulosum* Motschulsky, 1860. Therefore *Rhinapion* Motschulsky, 1868 is available under Article 12b(5) of the Code. This name has not been used since and is a junior subjective synonym of *Oxystoma* Duméril, 1806 (see Alonso-Zarazaga, 1991).

3. In 1905 Beguin-Billecocq described a subgenus *Rhinapion* (p. 147) of the genus *Apion* Herbst, 1797 from Madagascar, including three new species: *Apion obliquestriatum*, *A. insigne* and *A. pauxillum*. No type species was designated. This name is a homonym of *Rhinapion* Motschulsky, 1868 and, in accordance with the Code, should not be used.

4. Kissinger (1968, p. 28) designated *Apion pauxillum* Beguin-Billecocq (1905, p. 149) as the type species of *Rhinapion* Beguin-Billecocq, 1905. No type species has been designated for *Rhinapion* Motschulsky, 1868.

5. The name *Rhinapion* Beguin-Billecocq, 1905 has been used by authors dealing with the Madagascan or African APIONIDAE since its description, either as a subgenus of *Apion* Herbst, 1797 or as a subgenus of *Conapium* Motschulsky, 1866 (also spelt *Conapion*). The genus presently includes 11 species but many others await description. The name *Rhinapion* Beguin-Billecocq, 1905 is used by applied entomologists; authors include Beguin-Billecocq (1910, p. 431), Wagner (1910, p. 8; 1912a, p. 24; 1912b, p. 43),

Hustache (1923, p. 89), Burgeon (1938, p. 210), Voss (1959, pp. 53, 64) and Kissinger (1968, pp. 28, 38). A list of three additional references by Voss and a further reference by Wagner have been given to the Commission Secretariat.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Rhinapion* Motschulsky, 1868, and all uses of the name *Rhinapion* prior to that by Beguin-Billecocq (1905), for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Rhinapion* Beguin-Billecocq, 1905 (gender: neuter), type species by designation by Kissinger (1968) *Apion pauxillum* Beguin-Billecocq, 1905;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *pauxillum* Beguin-Billecocq, 1905, as published in the binomen *Apion pauxillum* (specific name of the type species of *Rhinapion* Beguin-Billecocq, 1905);
- (4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name *Rhinapion* Motschulsky, 1868, as suppressed in (1) above.

References

- Alonso-Zarazaga, M.A. 1991. Revision of the supraspecific taxa in the Palaearctic Apionidae Schoenherr, 1823 (Coleoptera, Curculionoidea). 2. (Subfamily Apioninae Schoenherr, 1823: introduction, keys and descriptions). *Graellsia*, **46**: 19–156.
- Beguin-Billecocq, L. 1905. Diagnoses d'espèces nouvelles d'Apionidae (Col.) provenant de la Région Malgache et recueillis par MM Alluaud, Decorse, Mocquers, Perrier et Sicard. *Annales de la Société Entomologique de France*, **74**: 134–159.
- Beguin-Billecocq, L. 1910. List of the species of the coleopterous genus *Apion* (Curculionidae) in the collection of the South African Museum, and descriptions of new species. *Annals of the South Africa Museum*, **5**(8): 429–432.
- Burgeon, L. 1938. Nouveaux *Apion* du Congo Belge. *Revue de Zoologie et de Botanique Africaines*, **31**(2): 185–224.
- Duméril, M.C. 1806. *Zoologie analytique, ou méthode naturelle de classification des animaux, rendue plus facile à l'aide de tableaux synoptiques*. 344 pp., errata. Allais, Paris.
- Hustache, A. 1923. Curculionides nouveaux de Madagascar (première note). *Annales de la Société Entomologique de Belgique*, **63**: 73–93.
- Kissinger, D.G. 1968. *Curculionidae subfamily Apioninae of North and Central America with reviews of the world genera of Apioninae and world subgenera of Apion* Herbst (Coleoptera). 559 pp. Taxonomic Publications, South Lancaster, Massachusetts.
- Motschulsky, V. 1860. Coléoptères de la Sibérie Orientale et en particulier des rives de l'Amour. Pp. 76–258, pls. 6–11, map in: Dr. P.L. v. Schrenck's *Reisen und Forschungen in Amur-Lande*, vol. 2, part 2 (Coleopteren). St. Petersburg.
- Motschulsky, V. 1866. Essai d'un catalogue des insectes de l'île de Ceylan. Supplément. *Bulletin de la Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscou*, **39**(2): 393–446.
- Motschulsky, V. 1868. Genres et espèces d'insectes, publiés dans différents ouvrages par Victor Motschoulsky. *Horae Societatis Entomologicae Rossicae*, **6**(suppl.): 1–118.
- Voss, E. 1959. Ein Beitrag zur Kenntnis der Apioniden-Fauna Zentralafrikas (Col. Curc.). *Annales du Muséum Royal du Congo Belge, (Zoologique)*, **76**: 7–119.
- Wagner, H. 1910. Curculionidae: Apioninae. *Coleopterorum Catalogus*, **6**: 1–81.
- Wagner, H. 1912a. *Coleoptera, Fam. Curculionidae, Subfam. Apioninae*. Pp. 1–109, pls. 1–6 in Wytman, P., *Genera Insectorum*, fasc. 130. Vertenuil & Desmet, Bruxelles.
- Wagner, H. 1912b. Neue Apioniden aus dem Aethiopischen Faunengebiet. *Mémoires de la Société Entomologique de Belgique*, **19**: 33–52.